

Neighborhood News

from Appleton's Old Third Ward

The Quarterly Newsletter of The Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Fall 1994

Latest County Proposal Leaves Neighborhood Flat!

After a recent meeting between neighborhood officials and County Executive Van De Hey, Planner Robert Stadl and Property Committee Chairman Dean Culbertson, it became clear that both sides are still miles apart in what they envision for the courthouse neighborhood. Most disturbing, is the continued effort by Stadl and Van De Hey to find more land for surface parking instead of setting long range planning into motion for a more efficient solution.

Briefly stated, the plan currently resting before county administrators calls for expanding the two parking lots south of Sixth Street - the reason being that if they spare the homes on Prospect, something else has to go. The Shelter Care facility at Walnut and Fifth would be moved into another neighborhood home and the building torn down. The Casa Clare building would be purchased and eliminated, leaving the Fox and Gage homes for future acquisition when needed. ("You can take this to the bank, we will not force anyone out of their home. We will let Roy (Baumruk) die in his home. We will let (Harry) Gage die in his home before we would take the house." - RV) At the other end of the courthouse, the two homes on Seventh Court are being eyed for future parking. This, according to Stadl, would be sufficient until the year 2010.

Linda Muldoon, Carol LeRoy, Sally Johnson and Frank Council, who represented the Old Third Ward, Inc., were not convinced. Muldoon, who lives near the south lot, stated that the proposal would "open more gaps" and serve to further divide the residential district. "How much more squaring off would happen after that?", she asked. (Stadl indicated it would be easier to landscape "squared off" parking areas.)

Council was concerned about the loss of buffer properties and buildings which currently help to hide the asphalt that's there. When asked why they have not even looked at using the half empty Midtown or West parking ramps, Stadl and Van De Hey concluded the ramps were too far away and too expensive.

Other concerns were expressed, including a recent move by the Property Committee to investigate purchasing the Casa Clare house before a parking plan was in place. Culbertson stated that because Casa Clare approached them, they couldn't afford to miss the opportunity. But Van De Hey once again verbally assured the neighbors that they would wait until a plan was in place.

The meeting concluded with Council and another neighborhood representative (to be determined), being invited to sit down with county and city planners to brainstorm other parking ideas. If a plan can be agreed on, it would be presented to the county Property Committee for recommendation to the full County Board. However the view from here to there still looks clouded over.

Another Vandehey Surfaces

Tuesday, October 25, was the first of two public informational meetings to discuss the "Arterial Development Plan for Appleton, Wisconsin", by Paula Vandehey, Dept. of Public Works. Of concern to Old Third Ward residents is the proposed widening of Prospect Avenue from Highway 41 to Oneida Street, included in the plan.

In an effort to dissuade the Municipal Services Committee and the Public Works Commission from including the Old Third Ward portion of Prospect in the final plan, neighborhood representatives learned that traffic counts used for the study predated the opening of the Tri-County Expressway and were out of date. The right-of-way (not the present road width) is 60 to 66 feet, or 30 to 33 feet from the present center line.

The loss of trees, privacy, property values, residential character, and historical setting are all at risk from this plan. **Please be sure to attend the following meetings regarding this decision: November 8, 7pm** - another informational meeting. **November 29, 7pm** - Public Hearing. **December 13, 7pm** - Committees take action. Be sure to confirm dates with the city clerk.

Quote/Unquote

From a memo to the Mayor and Common Council from David Vaclavik, Director of Public Works, Appleton:

"Any action taken that convinces local residents that Calumet is destined to remain a two lane road will only serve to make the eventual reconstruction that much more difficult."

Signs and Buttons Now Available

Keep the Old Third Ward in front of the public eye. New "Save The Old Third Ward" posters and buttons are now available to give to your friends. Posters are free, buttons are free to members, \$1.00 ea for non-members. Call 733-5766 or 830-1121.. All proceeds go to the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Inc. **"Stop Van De Hey" - Keep your sign in the window until it's really over.**

Thank You to Our New Members:

Bill and Joyce Anderson
Bickley Saunders
Gerry & Margo Chadwick
John & Mary Ensley
Judith Hoeffel
Thomas & Becky Kelly
Marion Leisering
Michael & Janet Murray
Carol LeRoy
Mary Rechner
Kristine Goldman-Dally

Janet Anthony
Tim Begun
Ray & Carole Charles
Frank Gabriel
Dan & Barbara Hulbert
Ruth & Art Kessler
Sue Martinson
James O'Brien
Lillian Schueler
Rosemary Trettin

George Bauer
Lillian Bradford
Robert & Lilas Dohr
Anne Glasner
Sally Johnson
Bruce & Carol Ladewig
Linda Muldoon
Gordon Schmiedel
Gerald & Paula Sosalla
Michael Dally

Early Peek at Appleton's Comprehensive Plan A Refreshing Change of Pace.

Sometimes it feels like we're living in the dark ages here in Appleton, while the rest of the world has seen the light of historic preservation and is accomplishing many splendid things. But on Thursday, October 20th, a preliminary look at the comprehensive plan for Downtown Appleton was like a breath of fresh air. Hired to prepare a complete long range comprehensive plan for the city, the Madison planning and design firm of Camiros hit the nail on the head when it came to Appleton's downtown neighborhoods.

Stressing contemporary planning goals such as "24 hour downtowns", where people not only work and play but live in also, the consultants recommended that Appleton smooth out the rough edges between residential and commercial areas. Seen as a potential weakness to housing was the potential intrusion of the Outagamie County complex into the historic Old Third Ward. In fact, the study recommends not only preserving and rehabilitating our neighborhood, but creating walkways and green space to link it to the other micro neighborhoods of the downtown and the Fox River Mills complex.

The Old Third Ward, Inc, is strongly in favor of the ideas presented by Camiros for the downtown neighborhoods, and looks forward to the day that these ideas can be incorporated into city planning policy.

If only our foes at county planning and administration could discard their 1960's way of thinking and take notice of the growing popularity of historic preservation.

Become a Supporting Member of Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Incorporated

Voting memberships are open to residents, both home owner and tenant, and non-resident property owners. "Friends" are non-resident, non-voting members who wish to support the purpose of the association financially.

Membership Categories

Friend	\$10 or more	Sponsor	\$100 or more
Resident/Property Owner	\$15 "	Sustainer	\$250 "
Family	\$25 "	Benefactor	\$500 "
Patron	\$50 "		

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

A/C & Phone: _____

Address checks and correspondence to: **Old Third Ward; 523 S. State St.; Appleton,**